GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2046
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2005
CHANGES IN THE TARIFF PLANS
Mohale Shri Punnulal

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is mandatory for WLL mobile operators to take permission form Government before implementing any tariff plan;

(b) if so, the reasons for effecting regular changes in tariff plans by mobile companies;

(c) whether the tariff plans by mobile companies are changed without apprising the consumers of the same resulting into the increased bills sent to the users; and

(d) if so, the steps taken up the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) As per provisions of the 30th amendment of Telecommunication Tariff Order dated 16.1.2004, the service providers have the flexibility to implement tariff plans after conducting a self check to ensure consistency of the tariff with the relevant regulatory principles. The plans so implemented are to be reported to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TARI) within seven days from the date of implementation.

(b) The service providers launch different tariff plans to suit different customer groups.

(c) & (d) Subscribers have right to choose and / or remain in any tariff plan of their choice offered by a service provider. In order to protect the interest of subscribers from frequent changes/hike in tariff, it has been mandated by TRAI that service should be available to the subscribers for the chosen tariff plan at least for a period of six months from the date of enrolment of the subscriber to that tariff plan.